

# **How I install Windows XP Professional**

Revision 1.2

By Timothy P. McIntosh

[timmymac@timmymac.net](mailto:timmymac@timmymac.net)

9/18/2007

Things to consider before proceeding:

1. This document is to be used for installing a fresh copy of Windows XP Pro. If you do this, you will lose ALL data on your computer's hard drive. \* You need to backup your data before you proceed.\* If you don't know what I'm talking about, STOP, because this document is not for you. Make sure you have at least an 800Mhz machine with 256 Mb of RAM or your experience will be diminished.
2. This document shows the install of Windows XP Pro. I haven't actually verified it, but I'm sure the install of Windows XP Home addition would be very similar, if you're on a home network or are a single home user.
3. GET HIGH SPEED INTERNET. If you don't already have some type of broadband connection (dsl, cable, etc....), what are you waiting for. It's almost impossible to survive in the Windows computing world without it these days. Just to download all of the necessary updates from Microsoft would take *forever* without it. Keeping up with Antivirus, Microsoft and other updates virtually requires high speed. Ignore this step at your peril.
4. This is the method I've used to install Windows XP for many clients, friends, etc.. for the past few years. It's served me well and hopefully it will work for you. If you're in a corporate environment, this would only be a start for you. This document gets you to the point that you'll want to be to start enjoying Windows and using it for whatever you plan on using it for.
5. Last, but not least!!! If you find this document to be at least mildly helpful to you, please consider donating a dollar or twenty to me using paypal. It's easy and it will help you sleep at night. I've got 4 children that'll eventually need to go to college and/or get married. If my knowledge saved you a headache, I'd call it a deal for you. Just use link below to go to my website. Then you can click on the donate button to donate money via paypal.
6. Feel free to discuss this document with me. If I feel that your suggestion is within the spirit of this document, I'll modify it and re-release it. This is by no means the bible of WinXP installs. It's just worked for me. Email me: [timmymac@timmymac.net](mailto:timmymac@timmymac.net). Seriously, I'd enjoy the feedback.
7. Enjoy.

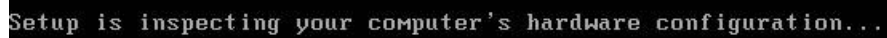
To donate, go to: <http://www.timmymac.net/donate>



Press any key to boot from CD...\_

### **Boot to the CD:**

In order for this step to work, you'll need to make sure your computer's BIOS is set up to boot to the CD drive before the hard drive. Once you're boot options are set, insert the cd and boot the computer. Eventually the screen above will show up. Do as it says and hit a key. This will initialize the install.



Setup is inspecting your computer's hardware configuration...



Windows Setup

Setup is loading files (ACPI Plug & Play Bus Driver)...

**Wait while Windows XP setup initializes:**

This process can take between 3 and 15 minutes depending on your pc. You'll see screens like the 2 above during this process.

## Windows XP Professional Setup

### Welcome to Setup.

This portion of the Setup program prepares Microsoft(R) Windows(R) XP to run on your computer.

- To set up Windows XP now, press ENTER.
- To repair a Windows XP installation using Recovery Console, press R.
- To quit Setup without installing Windows XP, press F3.

ENTER=Continue R=Repair F3=Quit

## Windows XP Licensing Agreement

### Microsoft Windows XP Professional

#### END-USER LICENSE AGREEMENT

IMPORTANT-READ CAREFULLY: This End-User License Agreement ("EULA") is a legal agreement between you (either an individual or a single entity) and Microsoft Corporation for the Microsoft software product identified above, which includes computer software and may include associated media, printed materials, "online" or electronic documentation, and Internet-based services ("Product"). An amendment or addendum to this EULA may accompany the Product. YOU AGREE TO BE BOUND BY THE TERMS OF THIS EULA BY INSTALLING, COPYING, OR OTHERWISE USING THE PRODUCT. IF YOU DO NOT AGREE, DO NOT INSTALL OR USE THE PRODUCT; YOU MAY RETURN IT TO YOUR PLACE OF PURCHASE FOR A FULL REFUND.

1. GRANT OF LICENSE. Microsoft grants you the following rights provided that you comply with all terms and conditions of this EULA:

- \* Installation and use. You may install, use, access, display and run one copy of the Product on a single computer, such as a workstation, terminal or other device ("Workstation Computer"). The Product may not be used by more than two (2) processors at any one time on any

F8=I agree ESC=I do not agree PAGE DOWN=Next Page

### Hit Enter and F8:

Enter to tell it to install XP and F8 to agree to the licensing agreement

## Windows XP Professional Setup

The following list shows the existing partitions and unpartitioned space on this computer.

Use the UP and DOWN ARROW keys to select an item in the list.

- To set up Windows XP on the selected item, press ENTER.
- To create a partition in the unpartitioned space, press C.
- To delete the selected partition, press D.

8190 MB Disk 0 at Id 0 on bus 0 on atapi [MBR]

C:	Partition1 [NTFS]	8182 MB	< 7668 MB free>
	Unpartitioned space	8 MB	

ENTER=Install D=Delete Partition F3=Quit

### Select the partition to install Windows:

Select the proper partition to install Windows. Don't forget that you're about to overwrite all of the data on the drive!!!!

## Windows XP Professional Setup

The partition you tried to delete is a system partition.

System partitions may contain diagnostic or hardware configuration programs, programs to start operating systems (such as Windows XP), or other manufacturer-supplied programs.

Delete a system partition only if you are sure that it contains no such programs or if you are willing to lose them. Deleting a system partition may prevent your computer from starting from the hard disk until you complete installation of Windows XP.

- To delete this partition, press ENTER. Setup will prompt you for confirmation before deleting the partition.
- To go back to the previous screen without deleting the partition, press ESC.

ENTER=Continue ESC=Cancel

## Windows XP Professional Setup

You asked Setup to delete the partition

C: Partition1 [NTFS] 8182 MB < 7668 MB free>

on 8190 MB Disk 0 at Id 0 on bus 0 on atapi [MBR].

- To delete this partition, press L. CAUTION: All data on this partition will be lost.
- To return to the previous screen without deleting the partition, press ESC.

L=Delete ESC=Cancel

### **Hit Enter and L:**

Enter tell it to proceed with the deletion of the partition and L confirms it. Make sure you are sure before doing these 2 steps!!!

## Windows XP Professional Setup

The following list shows the existing partitions and unpartitioned space on this computer.

Use the UP and DOWN ARROW keys to select an item in the list.

- To set up Windows XP on the selected item, press ENTER.
- To create a partition in the unpartitioned space, press C.
- To delete the selected partition, press D.

8190 MB Disk 0 at Id 0 on bus 0 on atapi [MBR]

Unpartitioned space	8189 MB
---------------------	---------

ENTER=Install C=Create Partition F3=Quit

## Windows XP Professional Setup

A new partition for Windows XP has been created on

8190 MB Disk 0 at Id 0 on bus 0 on atapi [MBR].

This partition must now be formatted.

From the list below, select a file system for the new partition.  
Use the UP and DOWN ARROW keys to select the file system you want,  
and then press ENTER.

If you want to select a different partition for Windows XP,  
press ESC.

Format the partition using the NTFS file system (Quick)  
Format the partition using the FAT file system (Quick)  
Format the partition using the NTFS file system  
Format the partition using the FAT file system

ENTER=Continue ESC=Cancel

### Hit Enter and Enter:

The first ENTER picks the recently deleted partition and the second one picks NTFS as the file system for the new partition.



Windows XP Professional Setup

Please wait while Setup formats the partition  
C: Partition1 [New <Raw>] 8181 MB ( 8181 MB free)  
on 8190 MB Disk 0 at Id 0 on bus 0 on atapi [MBR].

Setup is formatting...

30%



Windows XP Professional Setup

Please wait while Setup copies files  
to the Windows installation folders.  
This might take several minutes to complete.

Setup is copying files...

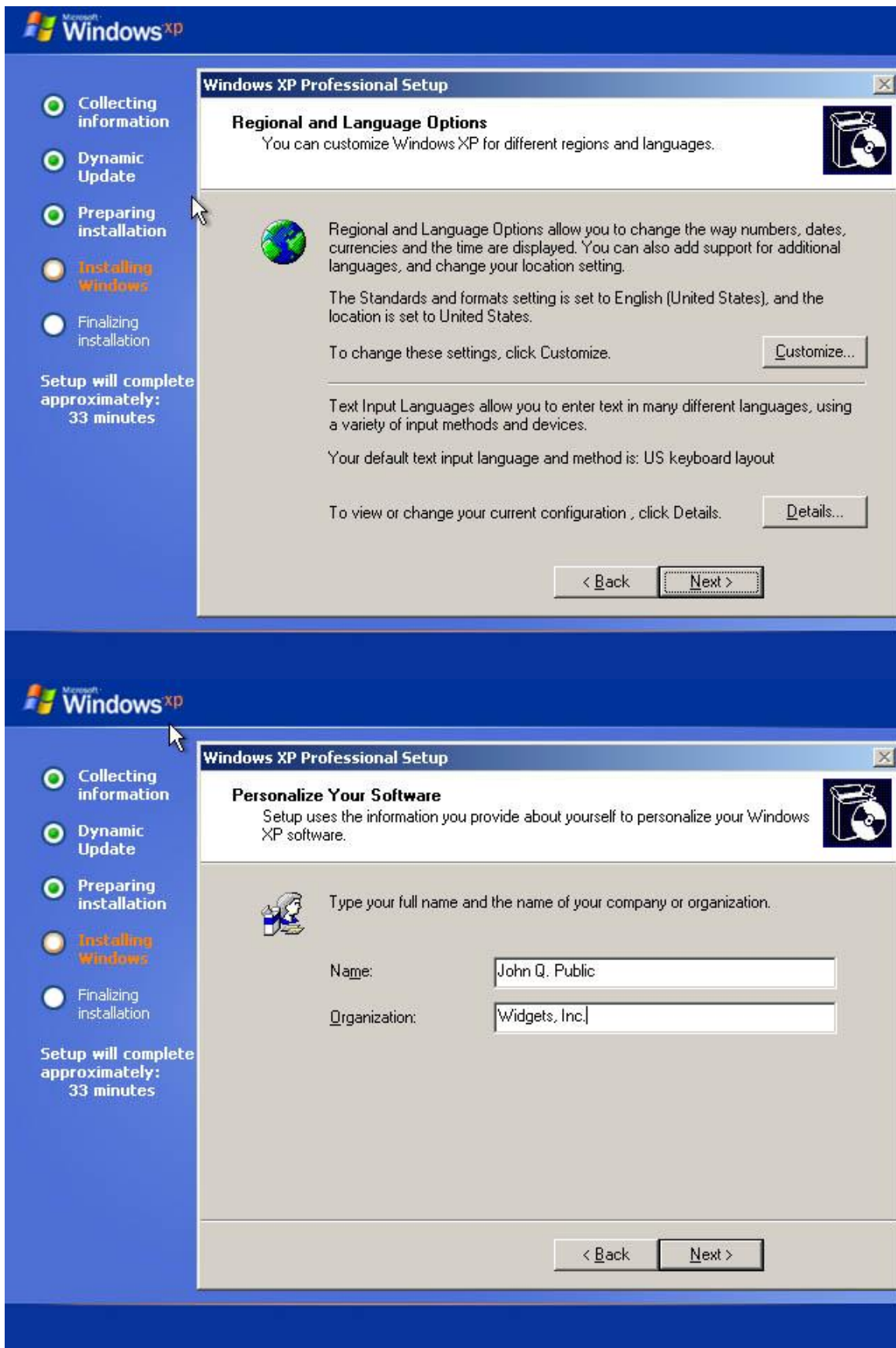
5%



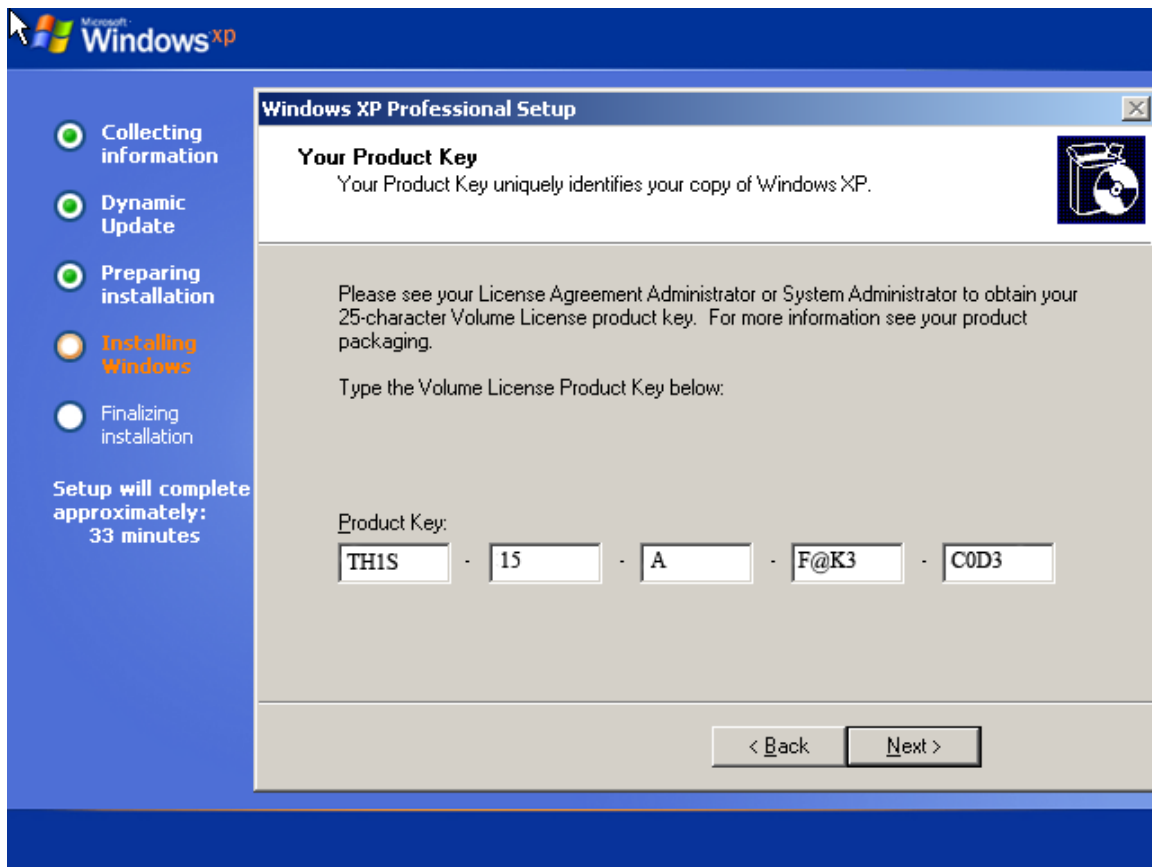
| Copying: netlogon.dll

**Wait:**

Nothing more, just wait.



**Select Regional Options and Enter Name:**



**Enter your Microsoft Windows XP product key:**



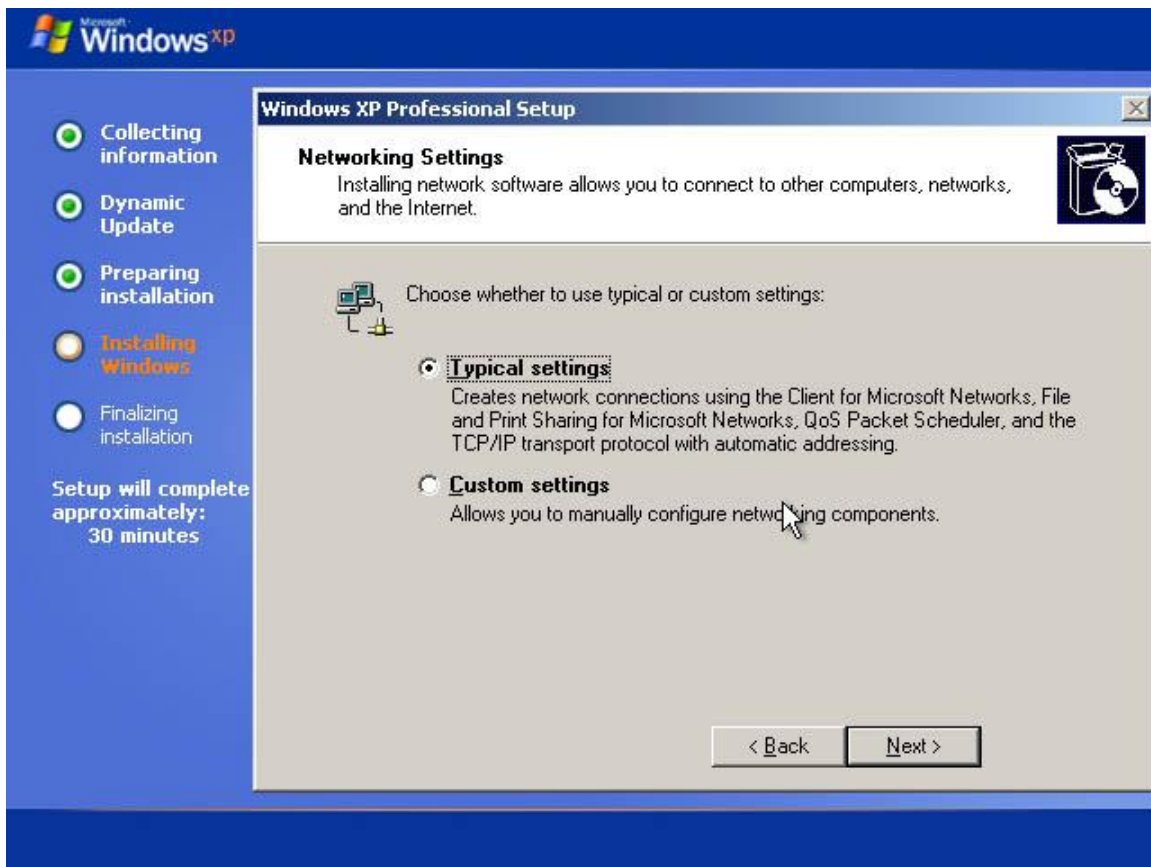
### **Name your pc and set Admin PW:**

Give your pc a name that is unique to your network. Set the admin password and DON'T forget it. You may need it later on if you have issues.



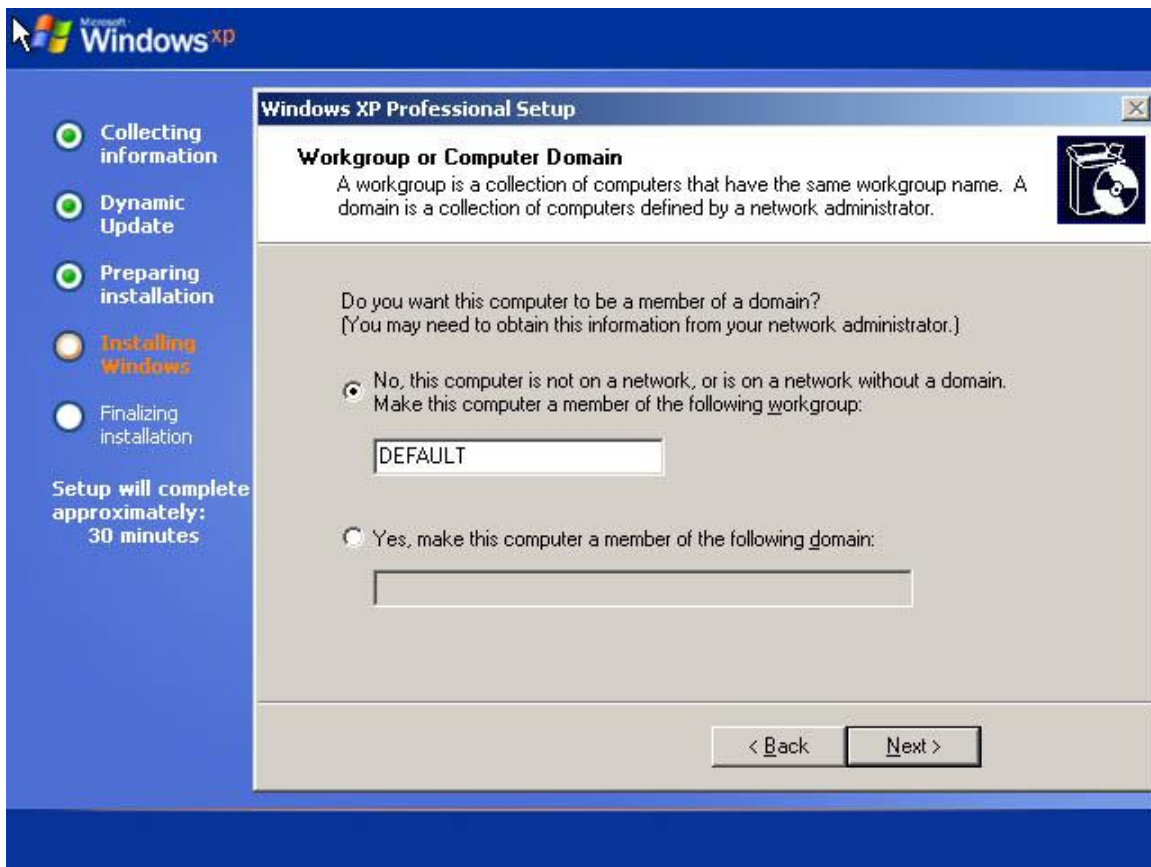
**Wait while Windows does it's install:**

Get a [fill in your favorite hot/cold beverage] while you wait.



**Click Next to select Typical Network settings:**

9 times out of 10, the typical settings will suffice as a starting point if you have a broadband connection. If you don't have a broadband connection, you've been warned to get one already, so I won't mention it again.



**Change the workgroup name and click next:**

Change the network connection to something other than DEFAULT or WORKGROUP. Call it BOB or OPHELIA or 24KUY\$321. Just don't leave the default.

Or

If you're in a workgroup or domain environment, you already know what to do, so go ahead and do it.

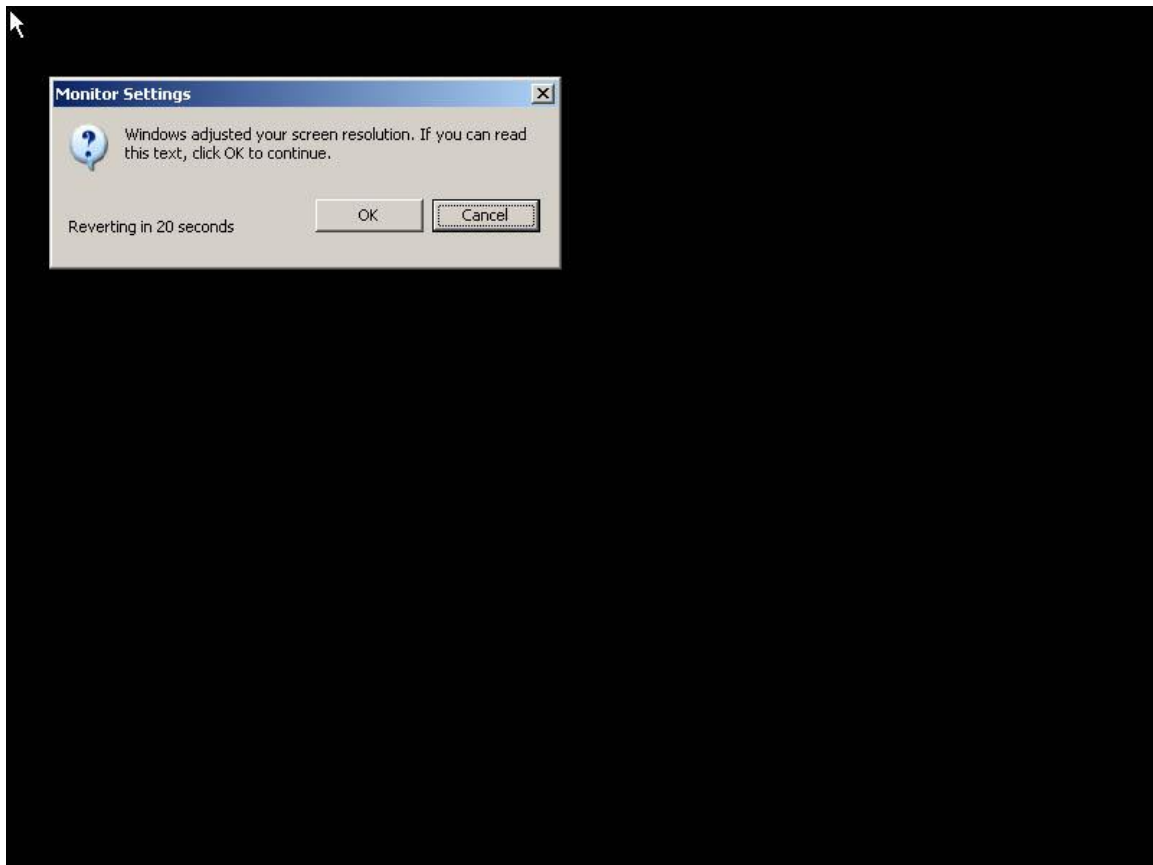
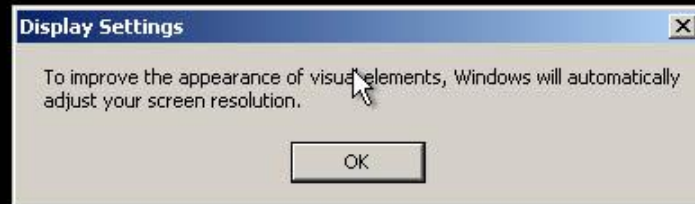




**Wait a while more:**

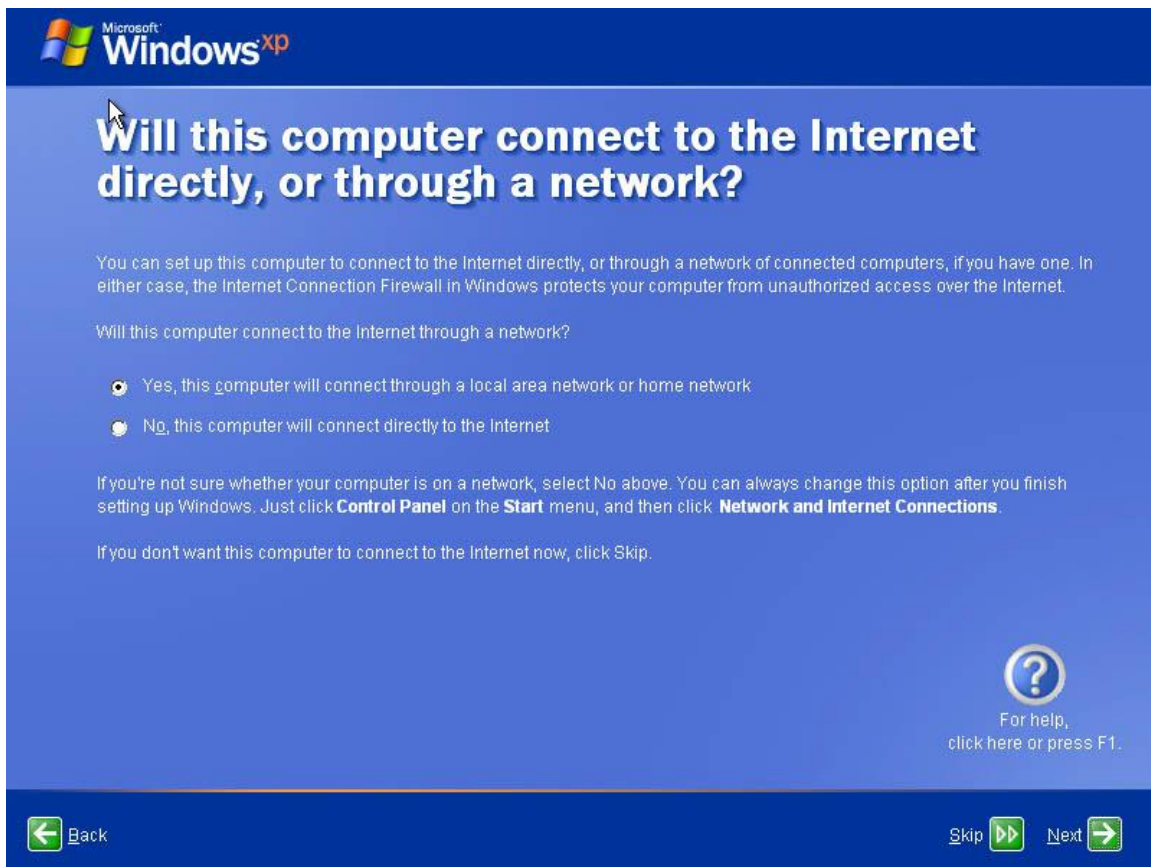
Refill your drink





**Click OK and OK to let Window auto-adjust the screen resolution:**

If your monitor or video card can't handle the new resolution, Windows will auto-switch back if you don't click OK.



**Click Next on Welcome screen and choose direct:**

If you have high speed internet, it will just work if you're all hooked up properly.

## Ready to register with Microsoft?

Register online with Microsoft, and we'll notify you of new products, product updates, events, promotions, and special offers that you may be interested in. **Registration is optional.**

**Are you ready to register online with Microsoft?**

- ☒ Yes, I'd like to register with Microsoft now
- ☐ No, not at this time

Microsoft is committed to protecting your privacy and does not share your information.  
Show me [the Windows Registration Privacy Statement](#).



For help,  
click here or press F1.



### Register with Microsoft:

Or choose NO and do it later.



# Who will use this computer?

Type the name of each person who will use this computer. Windows will create a separate user account for each person so you can personalize the way you want Windows to organize and display information, protect your files and computer settings, and customize the desktop.

Your name:

2nd User:


3rd User:

4th User:

5th User:

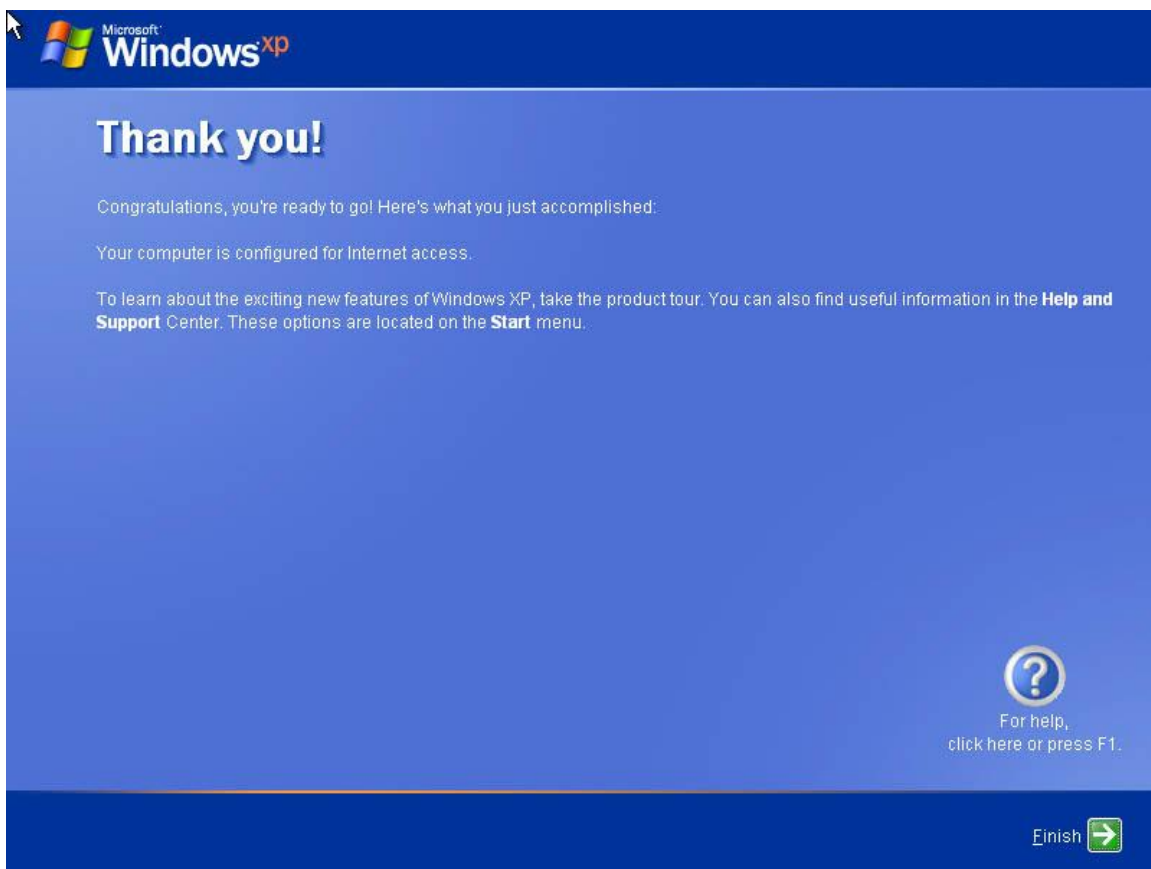
These names will appear on the Welcome screen in alphabetical order. When you start Windows, simply click your name on the Welcome screen to begin. If you want to set passwords and limit permissions for each user, or add more user accounts after you finish setting up Windows, just click **Control Panel** on the **Start** menu, and then click **User Accounts**.

 For help, click here or press F1.

 Back Next 

**Set up at least 1 user:**

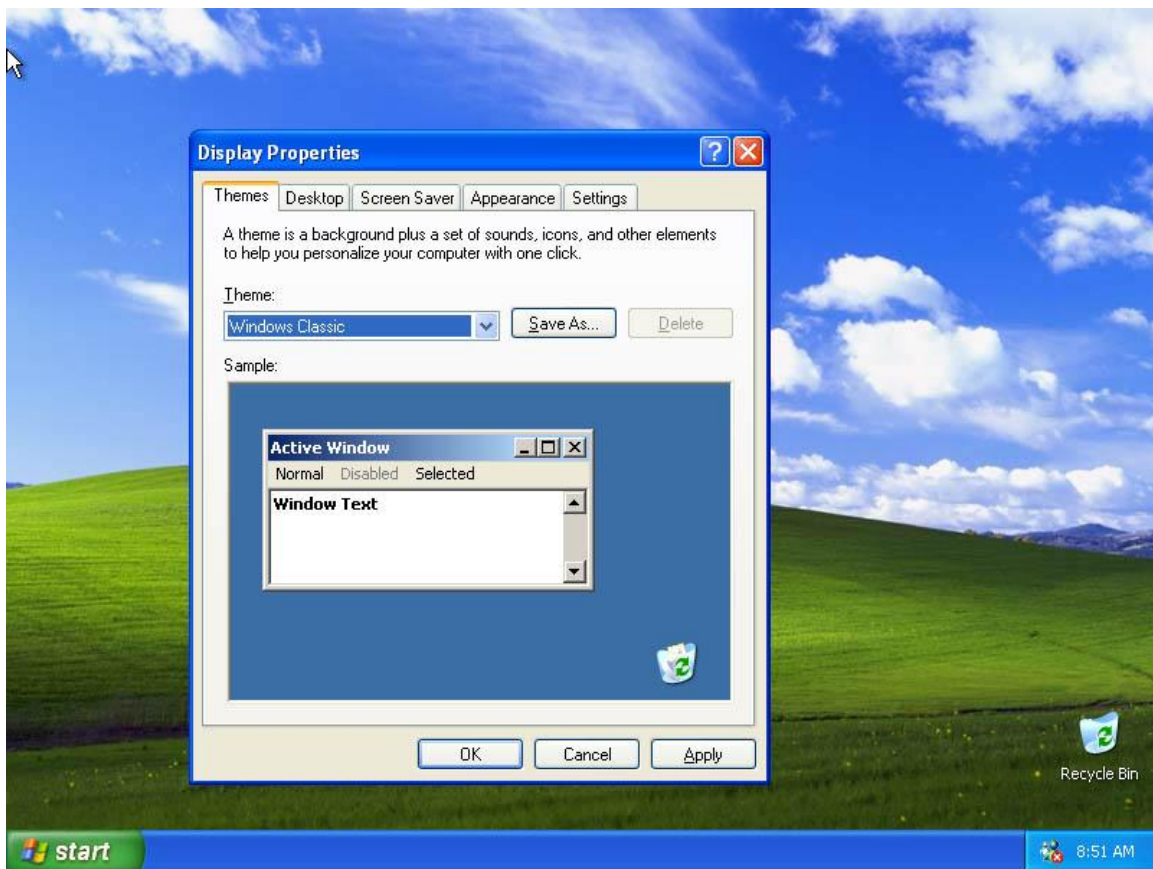
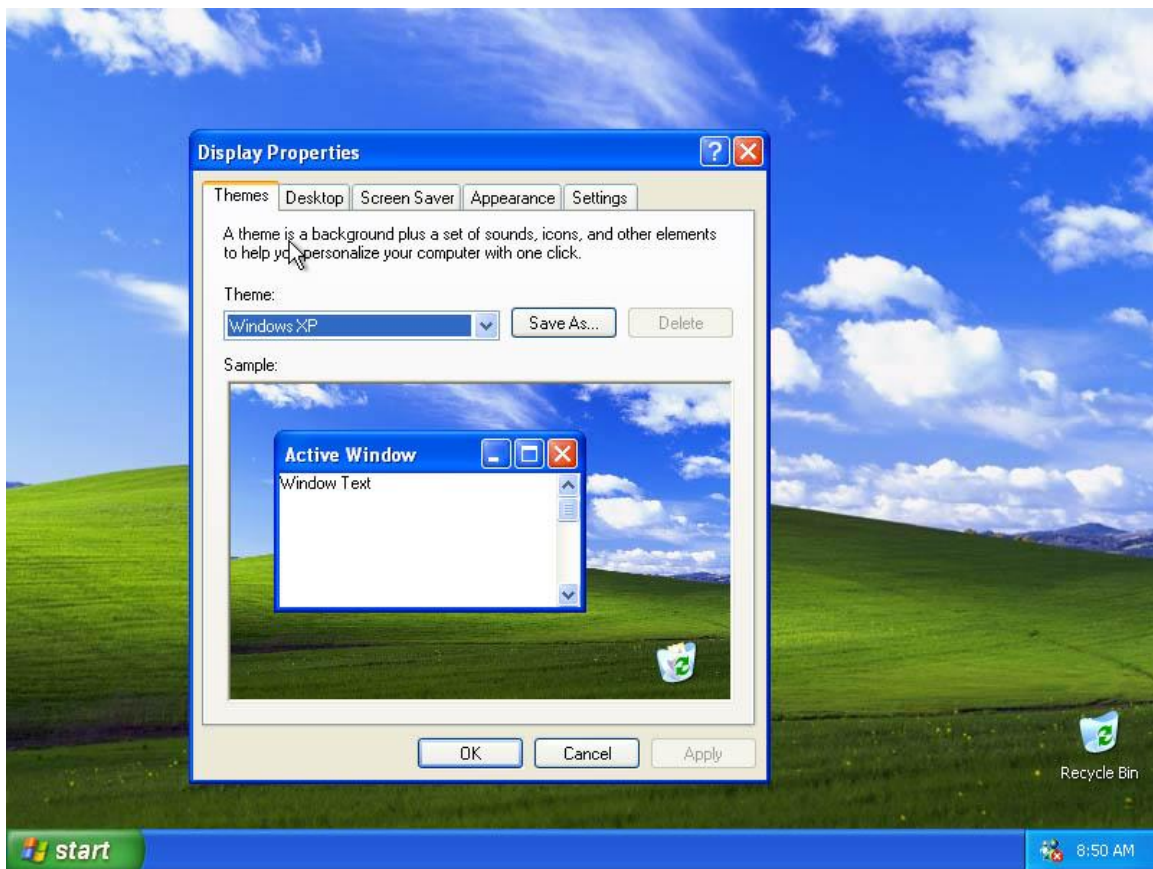
This will create a profile with that name.



**Click FINISH:**

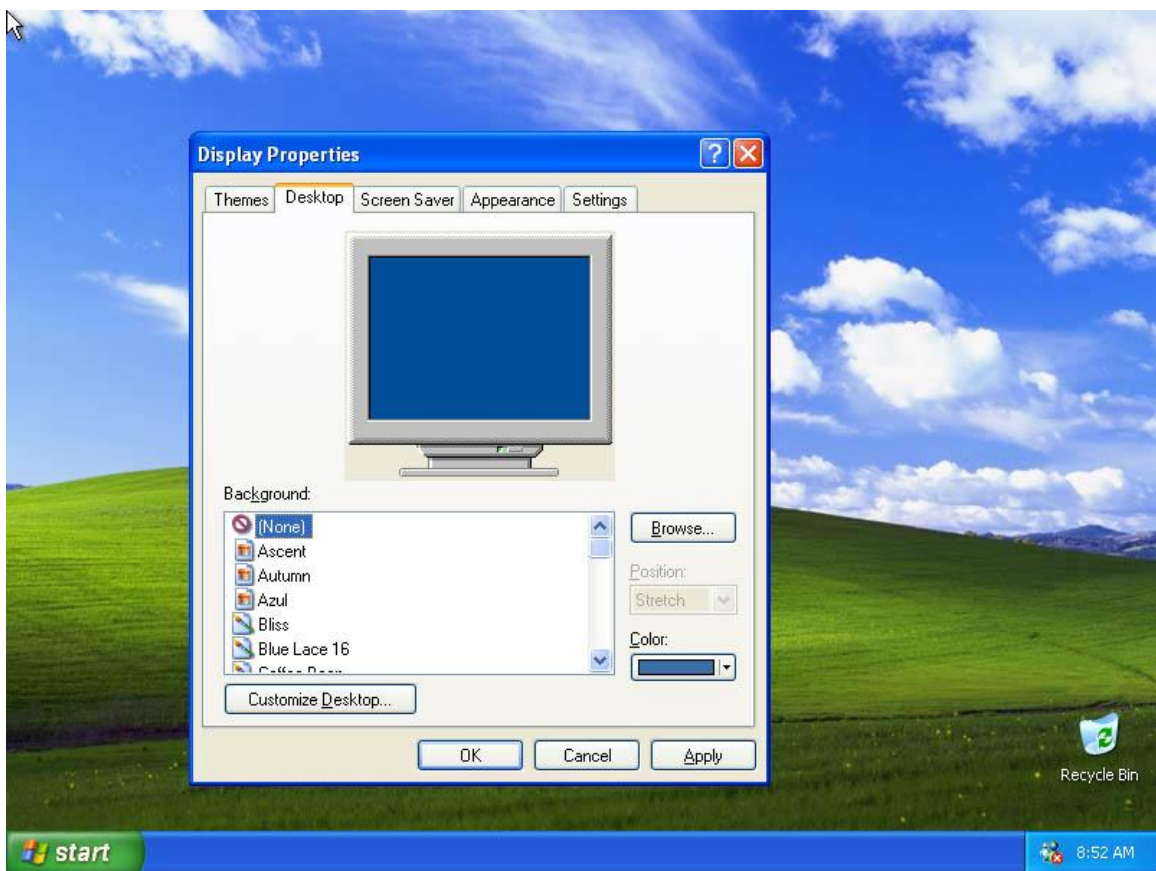
..and let Windows load





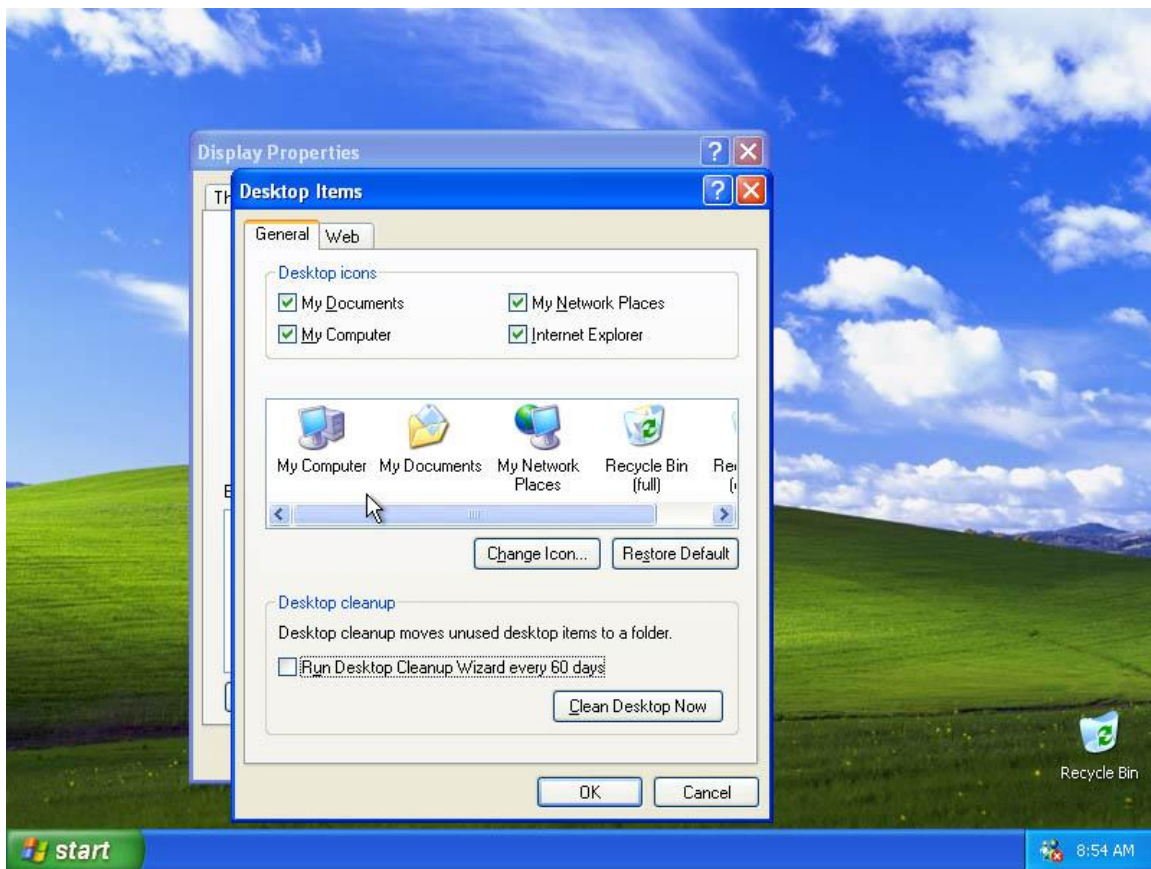
**Right-click on the desktop and choose properties:**

Change the Theme to Classic. It uses less memory and will make your windows session run snappier!



**Turn off the background image on the desktop tab:**

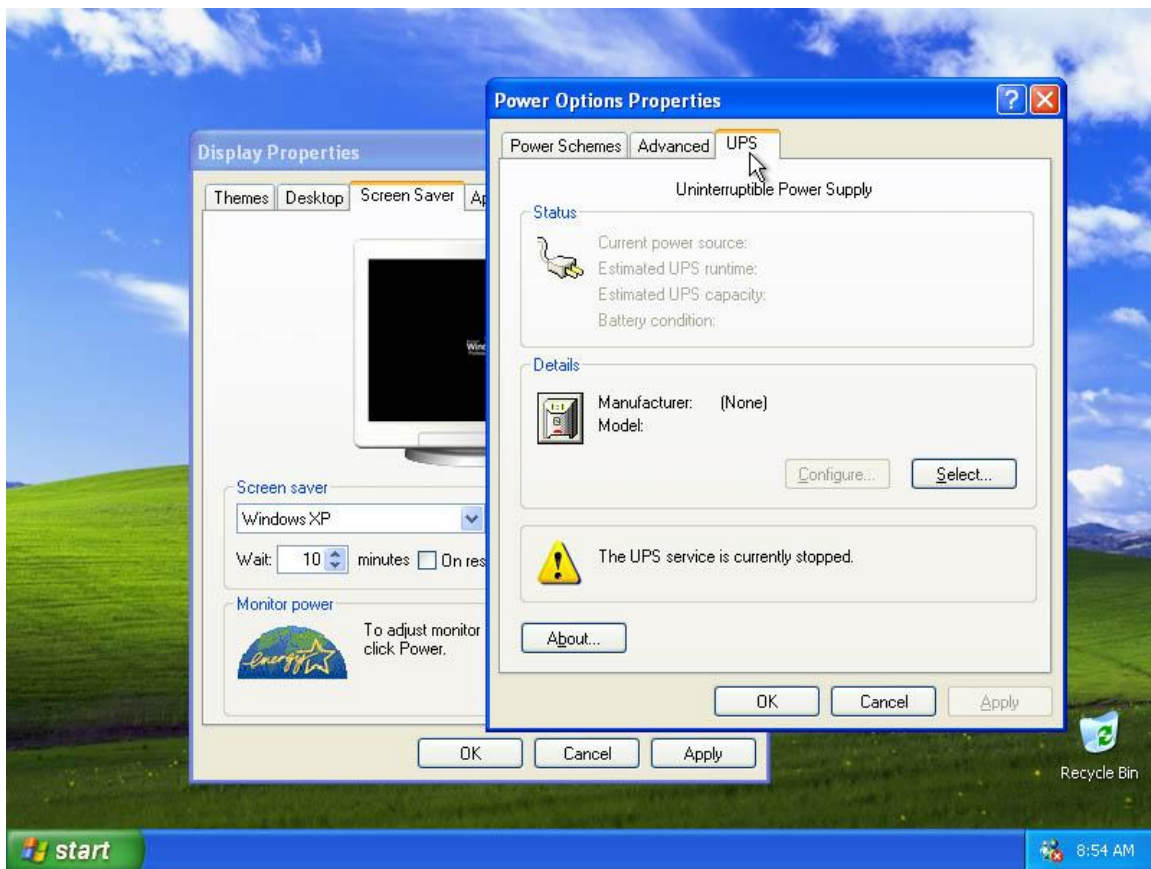
This is another thing that will make windows run smoother.



**Click on the Customize Desktop button:**

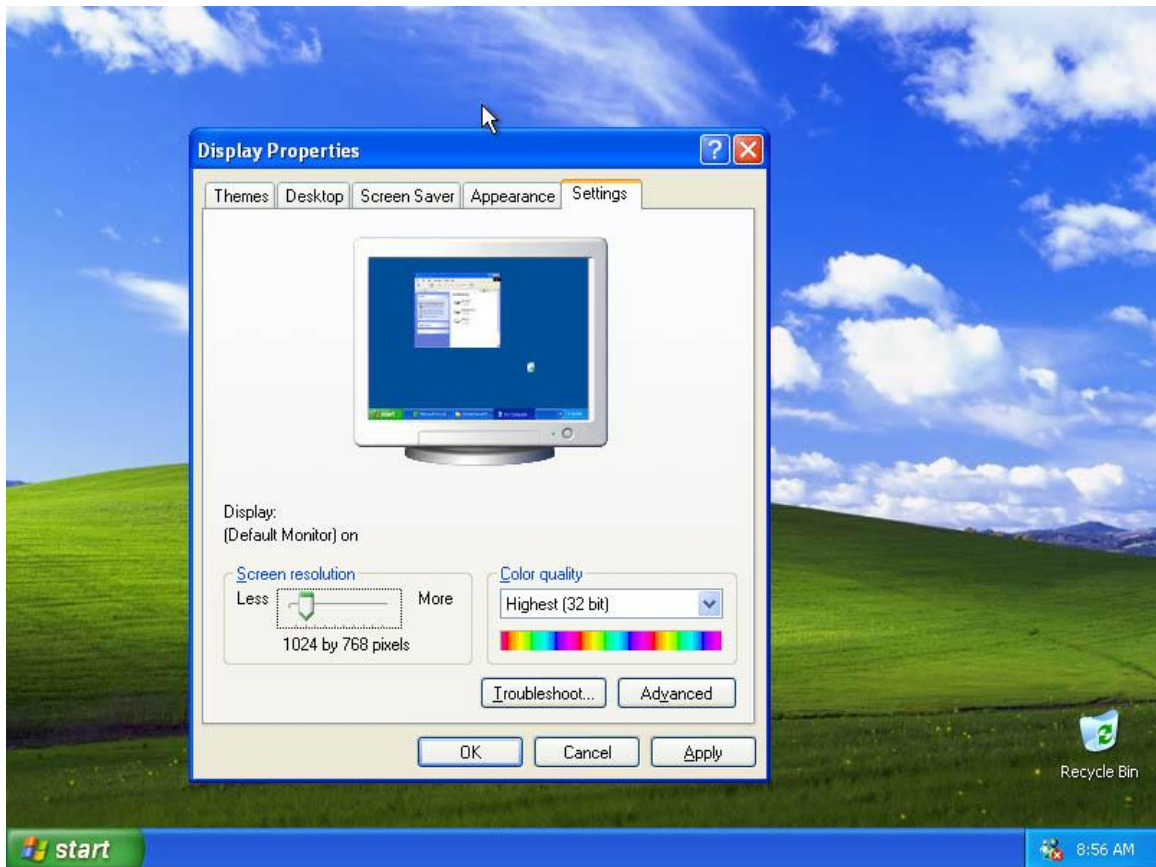
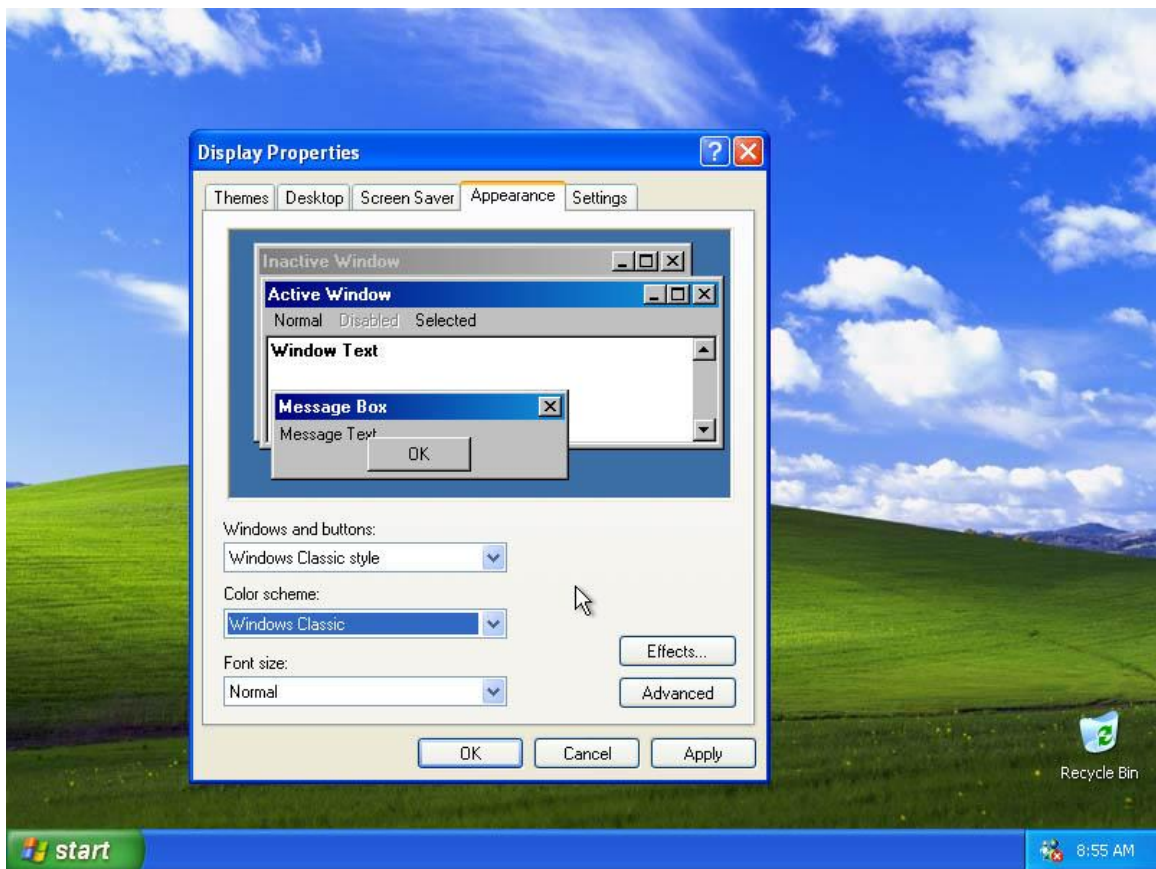
Put checkmarks in the top 4 boxes to add the icons to your desktop. They are handy to have on the desktop. Also, uncheck the “run desktop cleanup.....” checkbox. You can manage the icons on your desktop yourself.





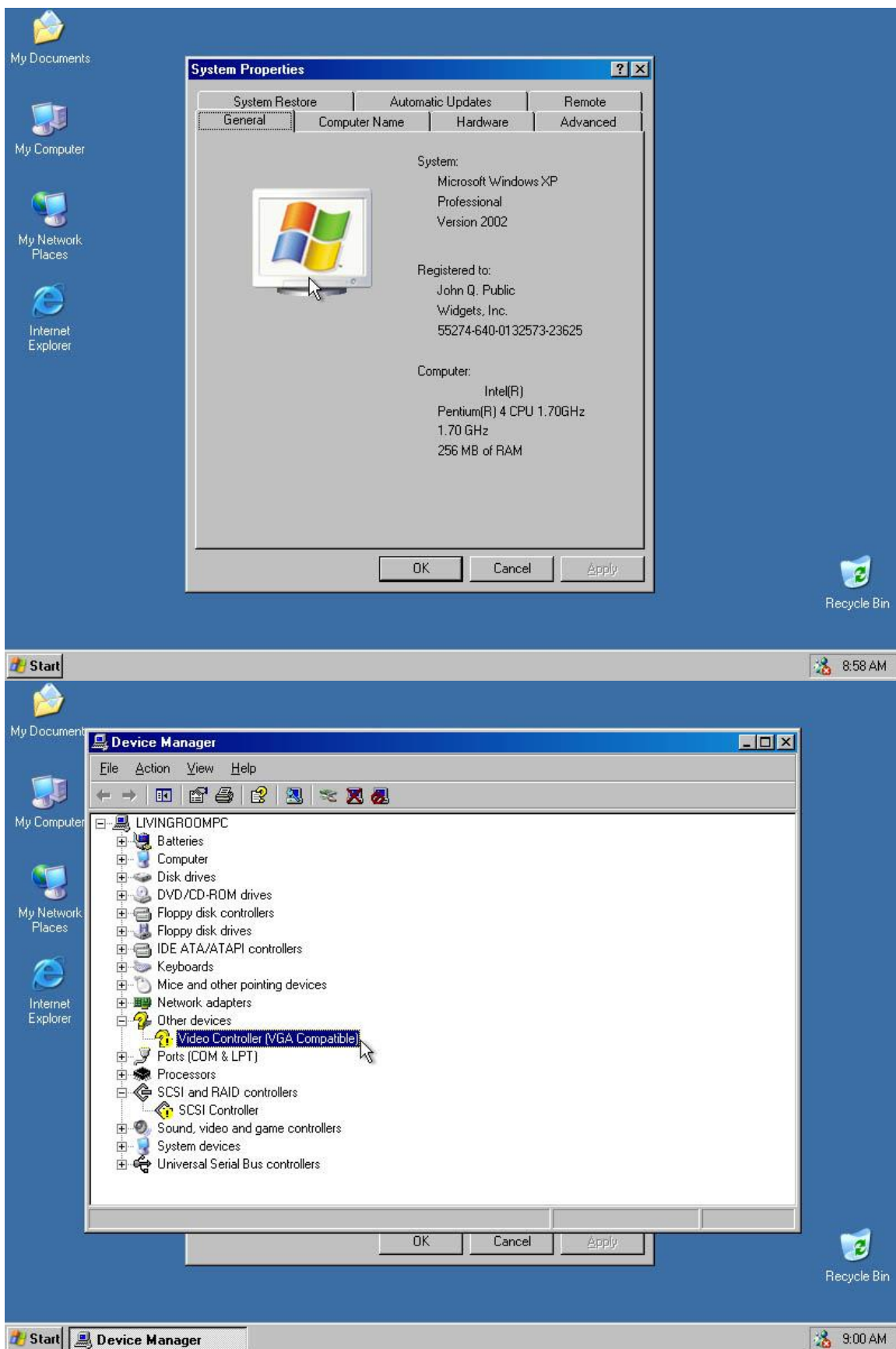
**On the screen save tab, click the power button:**

Although you it's not in the picture above, you may have a hibernate tab. If you do, you'll want to turn off hibernation by unchecking the check box.



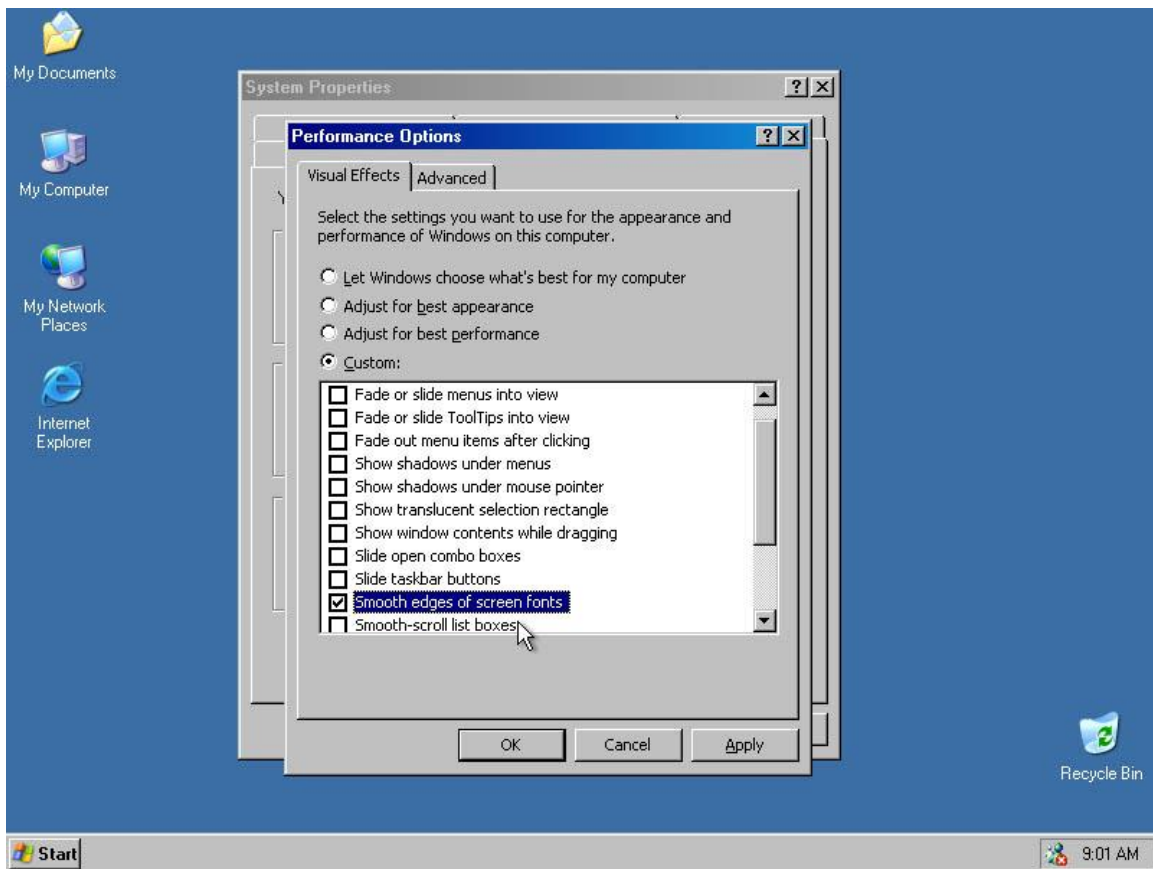
### Appearance and settings tab:

“Windows and buttons” and “Color Scheme” should be set to Classic. Set the resolution to at least 800x600. I would recommend 1024x768.



**Right-click on the “My Computer” icon and choose properties:**

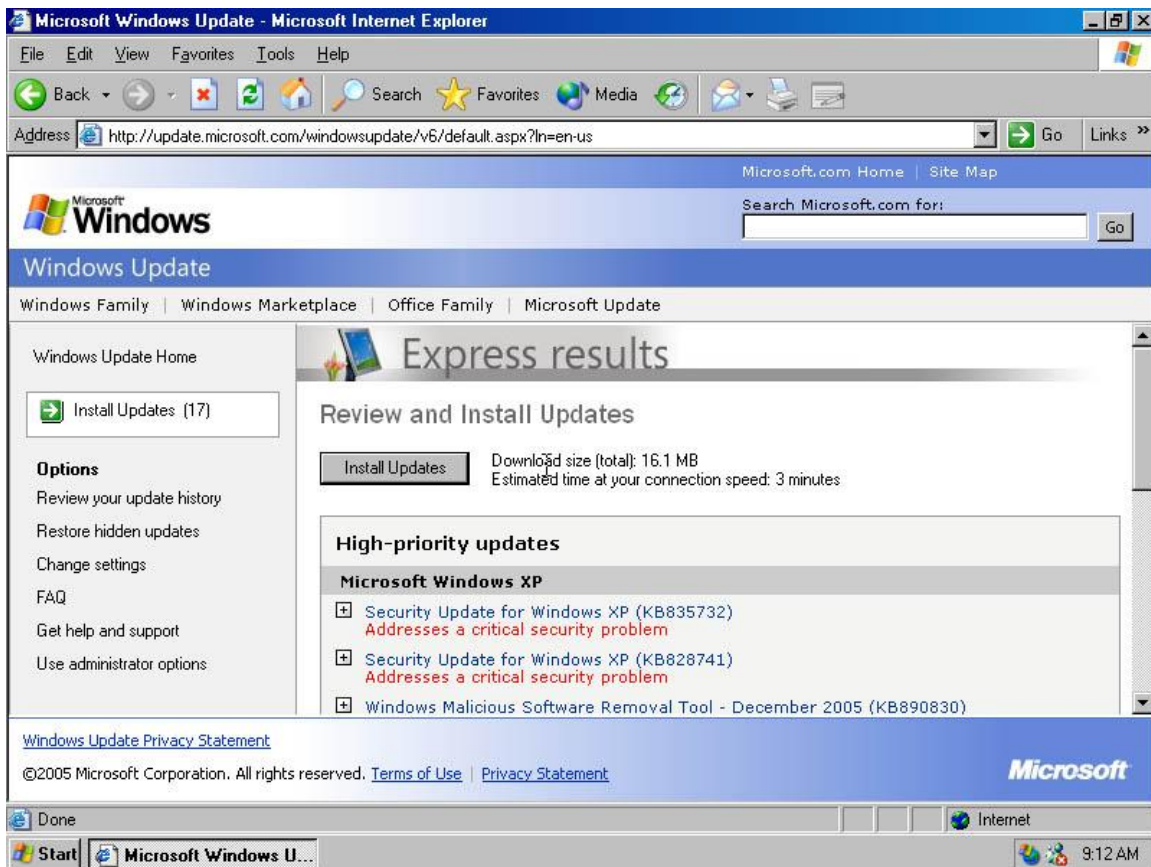
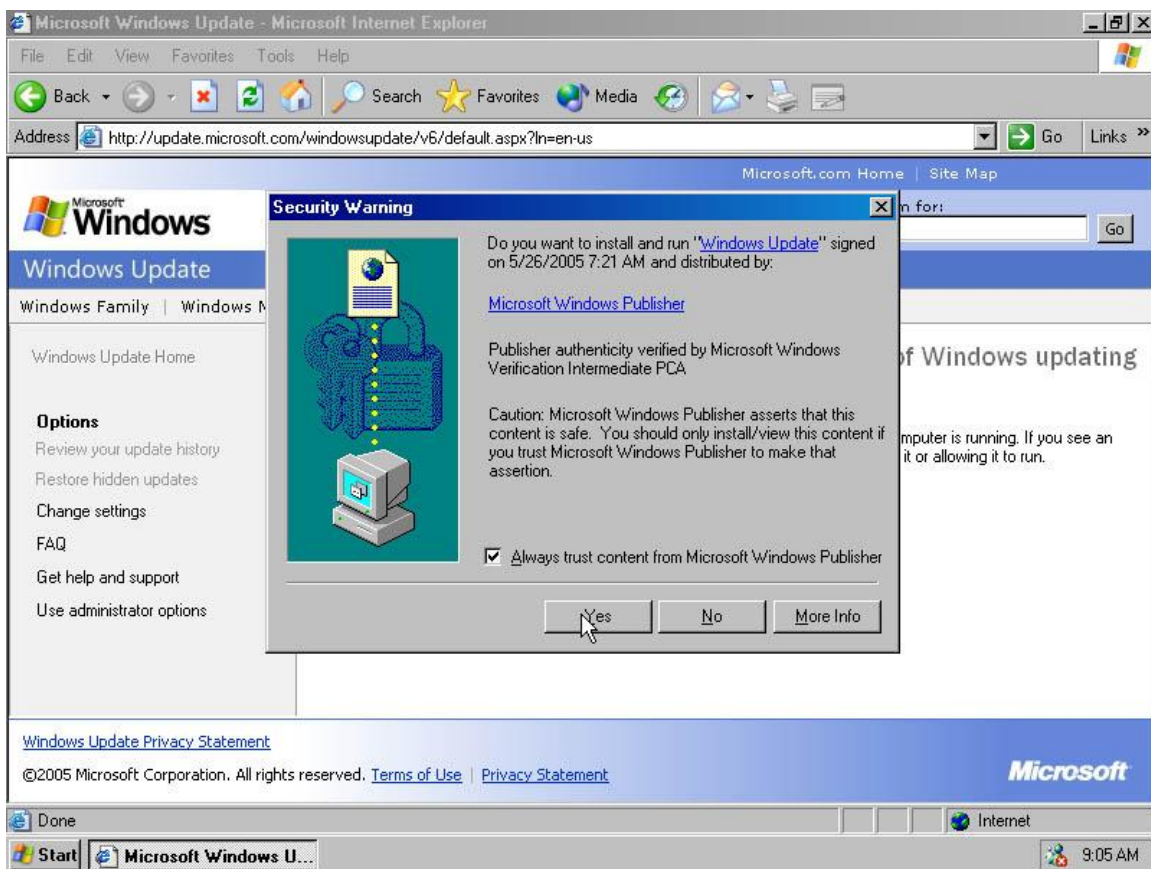
On the hardware tab, choose “Device Manager”. If you see any Yellow exclamation marks like the ones above, you’ll need to find drivers for devices within your pc. Most times you can find drivers at your computer manufacturers website. This can be one of the trickiest parts of installing windows. You may even need to open the computer case for clues as to the exact parts you have. I wish I could offer more help here, but I can’t. There’s just too many possible combinations of hardware out there. Good luck.



**On the advanced tab, click on the settings button in the performance section:**

I recommend clicking on “adjust for best performance”, then checking “smooth edges of screen fonts”.





Go to Windows update and install all updates:

<http://windowsupdate.microsoft.com>

Install all updates. Start by doing the express updates and then install all of the custom ones. You've got broadband, go for it. You may have to reboot a few times.

## Help protect your PC

Thank you for installing Windows XP Service Pack 2. Before you complete the setup process, sign up for Automatic Updates. With Automatic Updates, Windows can routinely check for the latest important updates for your computer and install them automatically. These updates can include security updates, critical updates, and service packs.



### • **Help protect my PC by turning on Automatic Updates now**

(recommended)



### • **Not right now**

If you haven't turned on Automatic Updates, your computer is more vulnerable to viruses and other security threats.



For help,  
click here or press F1.

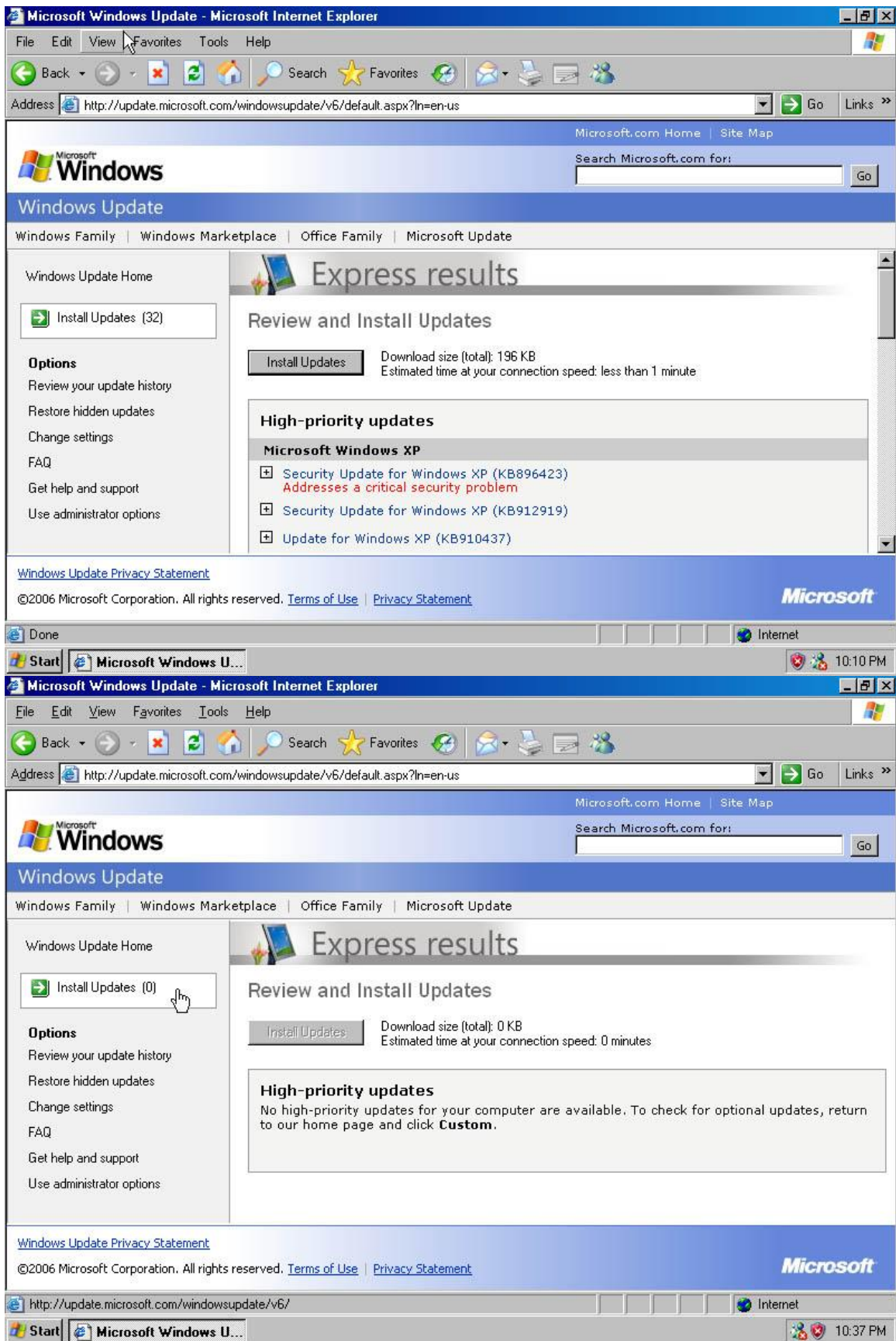
**No information is collected that can be used to identify you or contact you.**  
Please read the [Windows Update privacy statement](#).

Next



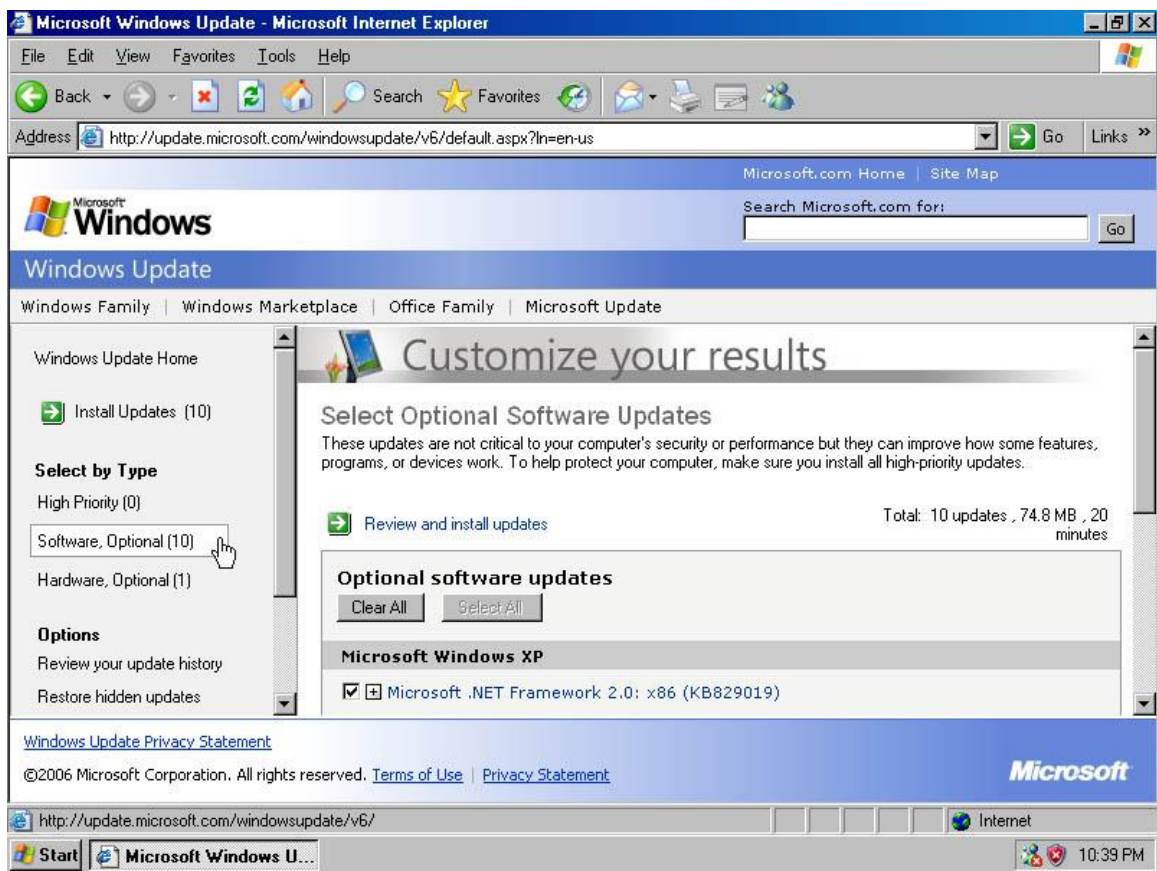
After Service Pack 2:

Service pack 2 is a major upgrade. After you boot up, you'll get the above screens. Turn on auto updates.



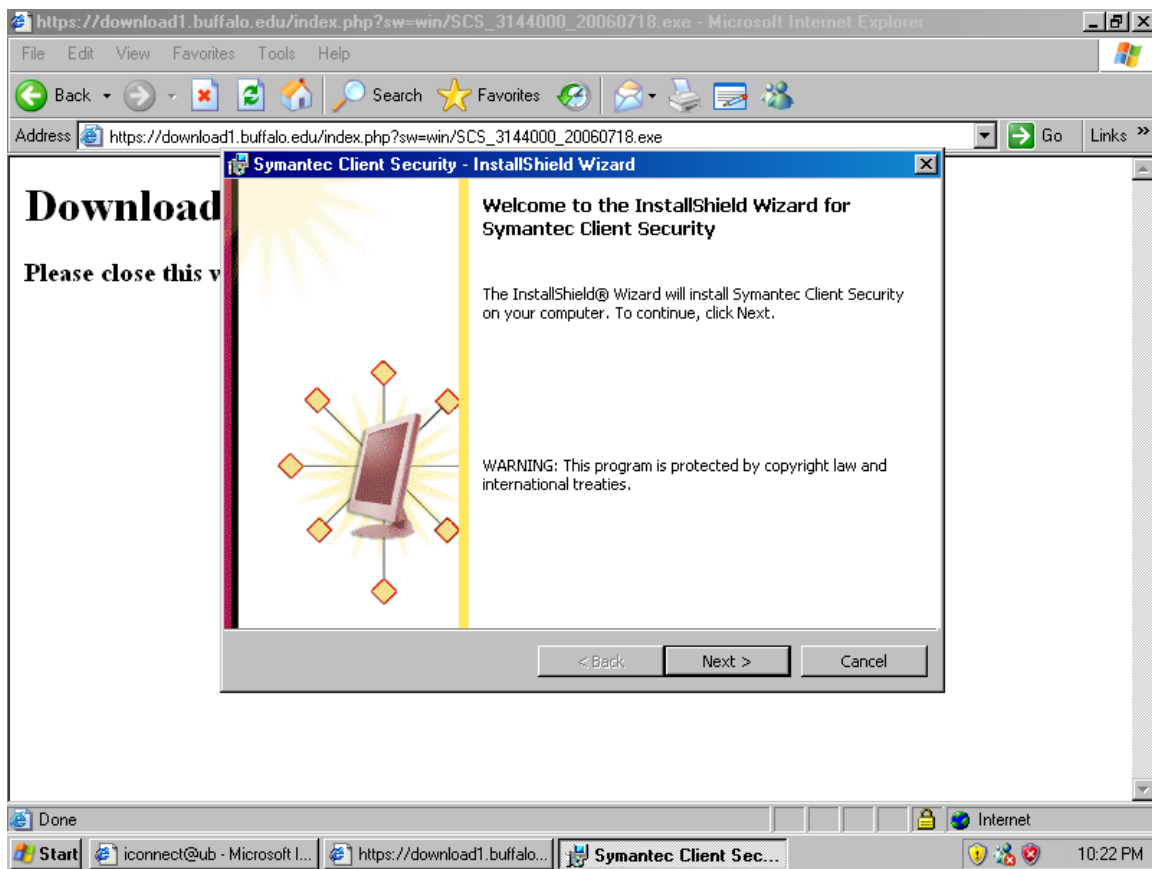
**More pictures of Windows updates steps:**





Keep running the updates until the High priority, Software and Hardware sections show (0).





## Install Antivirus:

It's very important that you install some type of antivirus software (Symantec, McAfee...). It's also very important that you set up the auto update features in that software.

You also might want to think about installing anti-spyware software. You don't have spyware now, but you probably will eventually. It's almost impossible to avoid it these days. (Spybot, Ad-Aware....)



**Enjoy Windows:**

To donate, go to: <http://www.timmymac.net/donate>